

## KEEPING CATS OUT OF THE GARDEN

1. Plant rue. The blue foliage makes this an attractive garden accent, but cats can't stand the odor and will make a wide berth around the planting. Thorny roses also deter cats as do lavender and pennyroyal.
2. Some gardeners use homemade remedies. Sprinkle your plants with crushed pepper. It will irritate cats and may even produce a few extra pepper plants in the garden. Cayenne is also said to work though you will need to reapply it after every rain. Or try ground-up grapefruit and lemon rinds. Or make a tea of rue, hot pepper liquid, or lemon juice to spray on plants.
3. Another a cat repellent formula is:  
2 parts cayenne pepper  
3 parts dry mustard  
5 parts flour  
Mix dry ingredients together and sprinkle where ever you wish to repel cats. It must be reapplied periodically and after a rain.
4. Commercial products like predator urine and cat (and dog) repellents also are available at many garden centers.
5. Another effective cat repellents for gardens is readily available at most any hardware store: chicken wire.
6. Use a commercial cat repellent, such as Shake-Away. Shake-Away bears the scent of the urine of predators that cats fear, namely, the coyote, the fox and the bobcat. This commercial cat repellent comes in a granular form, which you simply sprinkle around the problem area. The product is advertised as being organic, making it an acceptable option to use around children and pets. It will not harm your plants.
7. Sprinkle "stinky" substances like dried-blood fertilizer or ammonia around the problem area.
8. Cats don't like to walk on bristly material. So in mulching the problem bed, include something on which the refined paws of cats will fear to tread, such as sharp-edged pine cones.
9. Another mulch-related idea is to use stone mulch. It may not be the most attractive mulch for your particular bed, but cats prefer to poop in loose dirt. Cats usually won't bother with an area mulched in stone. They'd rather be "pussyfooting around" where the digging's easier on their paws.
10. Mix dry ingredients of 1 part ground red pepper, 1 part black pepper, 1part that chunky ground pepper they sprinkle on pizza, then add about 1/3cp dry hot mustard. This usually makes about 3 cups. Put the mixture in a shaker bottle and sprinkle around plants & on top of walls & fences. It works amazingly well. Water plant beds well before use. Redo it every few months. The cats get used to the peppers being around & don't bother the area for awhile.